

10/51997
JUL 2 Rec'd PTO/PTO 05 JAN 2005

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q85312

Ian David WORTHINGTON

National Stage Application of
PCT/GB2003/002473
-filed June 9, 2003

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: January 5, 2005

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: TRACHEOSTOMA CANNULA MOUNTING

**SUBMISSION OF INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT AND
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith is a copy of the International Search Report and the International Preliminary Examination Report received in the International Application corresponding to the above U.S. Application and a PTO/SB/08 A&B (modified) listing the references cited in the Report. Upon issuing the Reports, the International Bureau should send a copy of the Reports and the cited references to the United States Patent and Trademark Office. However, if the Examiner would like us to obtain and file copies of the references with the USPTO, please contact the office of the undersigned attorney. The Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge receipt of the International Search Report and the International Preliminary Examination Report.

10/519997

DT12 Rec'd POA/PTO 05 JAN 2005

Submission of International Search Report
National Stage Application of
PCT/GB2003/002473
-filed June 9, 2003

Q85312

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: January 5, 2005

10/519997

MODIFIED PTO/SB/08 A & B (06-03)

~~DTI 2 Rec'd PON/PFO~~ 05 JAN 2005
Complete if Known

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

REFERENCES LISTED ON THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT AND
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO		DUITZ REC'D/PTO 05 JAN 2005 Complete if known
<u>REFERENCES LISTED ON THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT AND INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT</u>		
<i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		
Sheet	1	of 1
		Attorney Docket Number
		National Stage Application of PCT/GB2003/002473 -filed June 9, 2003
Application Number		Not Yet Assigned
Confirmation Number		January 5, 2005
Filing Date		Ian David WORTHINGTON
First Named Inventor		Not Yet Assigned
Art Unit		Not Yet Assigned
Examiner Name		Q85312

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT**NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
OR THE DECLARATION**

(PCT Rule 44.1)

To:
NOVAGRAAF PATENTS LIMITED
The Crescent
54 Blossom Street
York Y024 1AP
UNITED KINGDOM

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

10/10/2003

Applicant's or agent's file reference P3096 WO ORD	FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraphs 1 and 4 below
International application No. PCT/GB 03/ 02473	International filing date (day/month/year) 09/06/2003
Applicant KAPITEX HEALTHCARE LIMITED	

1. The applicant is hereby notified that the International Search Report has been established and is transmitted herewith.

Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:

The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the International Application (see Rule 46):

When? The time limit for filing such amendments is normally 2 months from the date of transmittal of the International Search Report; however, for more details, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
Fascimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

2. The applicant is hereby notified that no International Search Report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect is transmitted herewith.

3. With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:

the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.

no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.

4. **Further action(s):** The applicant is reminded of the following:

Shortly after **18 months** from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau.

If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in Rules 90bis.1 and 90bis.3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.

Within **19 months** from the priority date, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices even later).

Within **20 months** from the priority date, the applicant must perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before all designated Offices which have not been elected in the demand or in a later election within 19 months from the priority date or could not be elected because they are not bound by Chapter II.

Name and mailing address of the International Searching Authority



European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL-2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Lucia Ertl

These Notes are intended to give the basic instructions concerning the filing of amendments under article 19. The Notes are based on the requirements of the Patent Cooperation Treaty, the Regulations and the Administrative Instructions under that Treaty. In case of discrepancy between these Notes and those requirements, the latter are applicable. For more detailed information, see also the PCT Applicant's Guide, a publication of WIPO.

In these Notes, "Article", "Rule", and "Section" refer to the provisions of the PCT, the PCT Regulations and the PCT Administrative Instructions respectively.

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING AMENDMENTS UNDER ARTICLE 19

The applicant has, after having received the international search report, one opportunity to amend the claims of the international application. It should however be emphasized that, since all parts of the international application (claims, description and drawings) may be amended during the international preliminary examination procedure, there is usually no need to file amendments of the claims under Article 19 except where, e.g. the applicant wants the latter to be published for the purposes of provisional protection or has another reason for amending the claims before international publication. Furthermore, it should be emphasized that provisional protection is available in some States only.

What parts of the international application may be amended?

Under Article 19, only the claims may be amended.

During the international phase, the claims may also be amended (or further amended) under Article 34 before the International Preliminary Examining Authority. The description and drawings may only be amended under Article 34 before the International Examining Authority.

Upon entry into the national phase, all parts of the international application may be amended under Article 28 or, where applicable, Article 41.

When?

Within 2 months from the date of transmittal of the international search report or 16 months from the priority date, whichever time limit expires later. It should be noted, however, that the amendments will be considered as having been received on time if they are received by the International Bureau after the expiration of the applicable time limit but before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication (Rule 46.1).

Where not to file the amendments?

The amendments may only be filed with the International Bureau and not with the receiving Office or the International Searching Authority (Rule 46.2).

Where a demand for international preliminary examination has been/is filed, see below.

How?

Either by cancelling one or more entire claims, by adding one or more new claims or by amending the text of one or more of the claims as filed.

A replacement sheet must be submitted for each sheet of the claims which, on account of an amendment or amendments, differs from the sheet originally filed.

All the claims appearing on a replacement sheet must be numbered in Arabic numerals. Where a claim is cancelled, no renumbering of the other claims is required. In all cases where claims are renumbered, they must be renumbered consecutively (Administrative Instructions, Section 205(b)).

The amendments must be made in the language in which the international application is to be published.

What documents must/may accompany the amendments?

Letter (Section 205(b)):

The amendments must be submitted with a letter.

The letter will not be published with the international application and the amended claims. It should not be confused with the "Statement under Article 19(1)" (see below, under "Statement under Article 19(1)").

The letter must be in English or French, at the choice of the applicant. However, if the language of the international application is English, the letter must be in English; if the language of the international application is French, the letter must be in French.

NOTES TO FORM PCT/ISA/220 (continued)

The letter must indicate the differences between the claims as filed and the claims as amended. It must, in particular, indicate, in connection with each claim appearing in the international application (it being understood that identical indications concerning several claims may be grouped), whether

- (i) the claim is unchanged;
- (ii) the claim is cancelled;
- (iii) the claim is new;
- (iv) the claim replaces one or more claims as filed;
- (v) the claim is the result of the division of a claim as filed.

The following examples illustrate the manner in which amendments must be explained in the accompanying letter:

1. [Where originally there were 48 claims and after amendment of some claims there are 51]:
"Claims 1 to 29, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37 to 48 replaced by amended claims bearing the same numbers; claims 30, 33 and 36 unchanged; new claims 49 to 51 added."
2. [Where originally there were 15 claims and after amendment of all claims there are 11]:
"Claims 1 to 15 replaced by amended claims 1 to 11."
3. [Where originally there were 14 claims and the amendments consist in cancelling some claims and in adding new claims]:
"Claims 1 to 6 and 14 unchanged; claims 7 to 13 cancelled; new claims 15, 16 and 17 added." or
"Claims 7 to 13 cancelled; new claims 15, 16 and 17 added; all other claims unchanged."
4. [Where various kinds of amendments are made]:
"Claims 1-10 unchanged; claims 11 to 13, 18 and 19 cancelled; claims 14, 15 and 16 replaced by amended claim 14; claim 17 subdivided into amended claims 15, 16 and 17; new claims 20 and 21 added."

"Statement under article 19(1)" (Rule 46.4)

The amendments may be accompanied by a statement explaining the amendments and indicating any impact that such amendments might have on the description and the drawings (which cannot be amended under Article 19(1)).

The statement will be published with the international application and the amended claims.

It must be in the language in which the international application is to be published.

It must be brief, not exceeding 500 words if in English or if translated into English.

It should not be confused with and does not replace the letter indicating the differences between the claims as filed and as amended. It must be filed on a separate sheet and must be identified as such by a heading, preferably by using the words "Statement under Article 19(1)."

It may not contain any disparaging comments on the international search report or the relevance of citations contained in that report. Reference to citations, relevant to a given claim, contained in the international search report may be made only in connection with an amendment of that claim.

Consequence if a demand for international preliminary examination has already been filed

If, at the time of filing any amendments under Article 19, a demand for international preliminary examination has already been submitted, the applicant must preferably, at the same time of filing the amendments with the International Bureau, also file a copy of such amendments with the International Preliminary Examining Authority (see Rule 62.2(a), first sentence).

Consequence with regard to translation of the international application for entry into the national phase

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that, upon entry into the national phase, a translation of the claims as amended under Article 19 may have to be furnished to the designated/elected Offices, instead of, or in addition to, the translation of the claims as filed.

For further details on the requirements of each designated/elected Office, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61M16/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61M A61J A61F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 3 640 741 A (ETES DONALD E) 8 February 1972 (1972-02-08)	1,2,4-8
Y	column 2, line 18 - line 22 column 9, line 3 - line 9 figures 2,3 ---	3,9,10
Y	US 5 000 741 A (KALT GLENDA G) 19 March 1991 (1991-03-19) column 5, line 59 -column 6, line 15 column 7, line 4 -column 8, line 21 claim 13; figures 2,5A,5B,6A,6B ---	3,10
Y	US 4 254 008 A (KRSEK GEORGE) 3 March 1981 (1981-03-03) column 1, line 12 - line 27 column 4, line 12 - line 18 ---	9 -/-

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority, claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report

24 September 2003

10/10/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl.
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Borowski, A

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>WO 91 05579 A (PHARMA SYSTEMS PS AB) 2 May 1991 (1991-05-02) whole document -----</p>	1,10

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: 11 12 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT – Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery: a method of mounting a cannula in a tracheostoma.
2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Information on patent family members

PCT/GB 03/02473

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 3640741	A	08-02-1972	NONE			
US 5000741	A	19-03-1991	US AU CA WO	4917112 A 4801590 A 2005436 A1 9006735 A1		17-04-1990 10-07-1990 13-06-1990 28-06-1990
US 4254008	A	03-03-1981	AT CA DE EP JP WO	4814 T 1143882 A1 2966238 D1 0020742 A1 55501059 T 8001384 A1		15-10-1983 29-03-1983 03-11-1983 07-01-1981 04-12-1980 10-07-1980
WO 9105579	A	02-05-1991	SE AU SE WO	466990 B 6618890 A 8903479 A 9105579 A1		11-05-1992 16-05-1991 21-04-1991 02-05-1991

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

ST/GB 03/02473

Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

A tracheostoma cannula mounting, a cannula assembly incorporating such a mounting, and a method of mounting the same within a stoma are described. The mounting includes a generally planar sheet portion (2) provided with an aperture (4) therein of suitable size and shape to engage a channel portion of a tracheostoma cannula (21) in interference fit so as to present a rearward mounting face (18) adapted in use to lie against the skin of the tracheostoma patient in the vicinity of the stoma. The material from which the sheet (2) is fabricated comprises tacky gel material such as silicone gel at least in the vicinity of the mounting face (18), and is preferably made essentially entirely from such material.